

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 25-31 remain active in the present application, Claims 25 and 27-30 having been amended and Claim 31 having been newly added. The amendments to Claims 25 and 27-30, and new Claim 31 are believed to be self-evident from the original disclosure.

Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101, and Claims 25-28 were allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. Claims 25-28 are amended to more clearly describe and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded by applicant as the invention.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. §101, that rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 29 is amended to recite "An information recording medium configured to have data recorded thereon and data reproduced therefrom by an information recording /reproducing apparatus, said information recording medium comprising: a lead-in area located near a center position of rotation of the information recording medium; and a data area around the lead-in area, the data area divided into logical sectors, each of said logical sectors having a size of 2,048 bytes, the logical sectors being assigned logical sector serial numbers, a part of said logical sectors corresponding to logical blocks assigned logical block numbers respectively,."

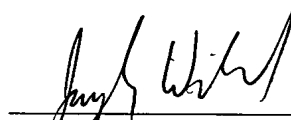
In the invention recited in Claim 29, the claimed recording medium includes the physical features recited in the claim. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claimed medium is an article of manufacture in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §101.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claim 29 (and dependent Claim 30) under 35 U.S.C. §101 be withdrawn.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and the above comments, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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James J. Kulbaski  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 34,648

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)

Joseph Wrkich  
Registration No. 53,796